Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 008495

53

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DRAFTED BY EA/PHL:MMEASTON:EM APPROVED BY EA/PHL:DCCUTHELL H:ELKRIZEK (SUBS) EA/PHL:ECHULEN (DRAFT)

----- 105696

R 151511Z JAN 74 FM SECSTATE WASHDC TO AMEMBASSY MANILA

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E.O. 11652: NA TAGS: PINS, RP

SUBJECT: CONTINUED CONGRESSIONAL INTEREST IN AQUINO CASE

- 1. DEPT HAS RECEIVED RECENT INQUIRY FROM OFFICE SENATOR TUNNEY RE WELFARE OF SENATOR AQUINO AND POSSIBLE U.S. ACTION ON HIS BEHALF.
- 2. RESPONDING TO AN OCTOBER LETTER FROM SENATOR TUNNEY ACTING ASSISTANT SECY FOR CONGRESSIONAL RELATIONS WROTE: "BECAUSE OF GREAT INTEREST YOU HAVE TAKEN IN THIS MATTER, THE DEPT WILL PLAN TO ADVISE THE AMERICAN AMBASSADOR IN MANILA OF YOUR CONCERN ABOUT SENATOR AQUINO. WE WILL ALSO ASK THE AMBASSADOR TO CONSIDER WHETHER HE FORESEES THAT THERE MAY BE AN OPPORTUNITY FOR HIM TO CONVEY TO APPROPRIATE OFFICIALS OF THE PHILIPPINE GOVERNMENT THE THOUGHTS CONTAINED IN YOUR LETTER REGARDING REACTIONS IN THE UNITED STATES TO THE KINDS OF TREATMENT WHICH MIGHT BE ACCORDED BY PHILIPPINE AUTHORITIES TO FORMER SENATOR AQUINO. WE WILL ASK THE EMBASSY IN MANILA TO PROVIDE US WITH REGULAR STATUS REPORTS ON THE AQUINO CASE, IN ORDER THAT WE MAY KEEP YOU INFORMED REGARDING ANY NEW DEVELOPMENTS." (OUR LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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RECORDS INDICATE THAT COPY OF SENATOR TUNNEY'S LETTER AND

DRAFT OF DEPT'S RESPONSE QUOTED ABOVE FORWARDED MANILA

NOVEMBER 13.)

3. WE APPRECIATE MANILA'S CONSIDERABLE EFFORTS TO KEEP US INFORMED RE THIS CASE. ANY FURTHER EMBASSY ASSESSMENT WHICH CAN BE PROVIDED TO SENATOR TUNNEY RE STATUS AQUINO CASE, GOP ATTITUDES, OR OF POSSIBLE SOLUTIONS TO CURRENT IMPASSE WOULD BE MOST HELPFUL IN RESPONDING TO THIS LATEST INQUIRY. RUSH

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Message Attributes

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Secure: OPEN Status: NATIVE

Subject: CONTINUED CONGRESSIONAL INTEREST IN AQUINO CASE

TAGS: PINS, RP, US, (TUNNEY, JOHN V), (AQUINO, BENIGNO)

To: MANILA

Type: TE

Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005